Drug trafficking and mafia nexus in Goa

3152. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Goa has become heaven for drugs and major market for narcotic dealers;

(b) whether 90 per cent of drug traffickers operate in Goa only;

(c) how many drug traffickers were arrested in Goa during the lasy three years; and

(d) what action Government has taken to break the drug trafficking and mafia nexus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) Reports received and seizures of various kinds of drugs in Goa as reported by different drug law enforcement agencies indicate that Goa is vulnerable to drug trafficking and drug abuse. However, these do not suggest that Goa has become heaven for drugs and major market for narcotic dealers.

(c) Number of persons arrested in connection with drug trafficking in Goa during the last three years, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies, including NCB, are as under:

Year	No. of persons arrested
2005	35
2006	30
2007(provisional)	25

(d) The Government has taken a number of steps to check, detect and prevent illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs such as, *inter alia,* improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies, increased international cooperation, training programmes for law enforcement officials, a scheme of rewards for information leading to seizures, a specialized Anti-Narcotic Cell in Goa, strengthening the anti-narcotic efforts in Goa by additional financial assistance.

Naxalite's campaign against SEZs

3153. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that naxalites have started a campaign against Special Economic Zones; and

(b) what steps has been taken to fight this economic attack by naxalites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) In addition to indulging in crime and violence, naxalite activity also manifests itself through various front organizations on issues such as Special Economic Zones, etc.

Maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government also closely monitors the situation and provides assistance by various means to the concerned State Governments.